

Submitter: Amber Myre
On Behalf Of: Support of Section 8 -ORS 414.074
Committee: House Committee On Health Care
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4040

Chair Nosse and Members of the House Committee on Health Care,

On behalf of Living Opportunities, I am writing in support of HB 4040, Section 8, which improves access to timely repairs of complex rehabilitation technology for Oregonians with disabilities.

Living Opportunities supports individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities across Southern Oregon. For many people we serve, complex rehabilitation technology such as customized wheelchairs and mobility equipment is not optional. It is essential for health, independence, and participation in daily life. When this equipment breaks, delays in repair can quickly escalate into serious consequences, including loss of mobility, isolation, time away from work, increased risk of injury, preventable medical complications, and avoidable emergency care.

Section 8 of HB 4040 takes a practical and balanced approach to addressing these risks. By eliminating prior authorization requirements for routine CRT repairs costing \$1,500 or less, the bill removes unnecessary administrative delays for time-sensitive repairs. For higher cost repairs, the establishment of a clear 72-hour timeline for approval or denial adds accountability while preserving appropriate oversight.

This section appropriately centers the lived realities of people who rely on CRT every day. Timely repairs help individuals remain safely in their homes and communities and reduce downstream costs associated with hospitalization, institutional care, and emergency services. From both a human and fiscal perspective, Section 8 represents a commonsense improvement to Oregon's health care system.

For these reasons, Living Opportunities respectfully urges your support of HB 4040, Section 8.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued commitment to improving access and outcomes for Oregonians with disabilities.

Sincerely,
Amber Myre
Chief Executive Officer
Living Opportunities